



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Omer Osman, Acting Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Sept. 28, 2020

CONTACT:
Paul Wappel 217.685.0082
Guy Tridgell 312.343.1731

I-57 expansion highlights Rebuild Illinois improvements, investment in southern Illinois

Additional lanes made possible by Gov. Pritzker's historic capital program

MOUNT VERNON – The Illinois Department of Transportation today announced that the ongoing and future expansion of Interstate 57 from Mount Vernon to Johnston City highlights a commitment to improve safety, reduce congestion and encourage economic growth throughout the region. The project is separated into six segments, representing a total investment of \$257.8 million for southern Illinois, with \$224 million coming from Gov. JB Pritzker's Rebuild Illinois capital program.

“With the Rebuild Illinois capital plan, Illinois isn’t just making temporary repairs and patching up existing infrastructure, it’s investing for the future,” said Gov. Pritzker. “Rebuild Illinois is the beginning of an effort to improve and replace roads and bridges and provide jobs throughout the entire state. By undertaking the I-57 expansion and other projects in the years to come, IDOT will ultimately create safer roads for Jefferson, Franklin and Williamson counties.”

Five of the six I-57 expansion segments are ongoing or upcoming, with one already completed. Each segment includes widening I-57 to three lanes in each direction and replacing key bridges:

- Milepost 63 to milepost 66 with new structures over Pond Creek, scheduled for completion in the fall of 2022.
- Milepost 67 to milepost 75 with new structures over Big Muddy River, scheduled to start in 2022.
- Milepost 75 to milepost 85 with new structures over Marcum Branch and Gun Creek, scheduled to start in 2024.
- Milepost 85 to milepost 92 with new structures over Dodds Creek, scheduled to start in 2023.
- Milepost 58.6 to milepost 63 widening to three lanes in each direction was completed in fall 2020.
- The reconstruction of the I-57/64/Illinois 15 interchange is scheduled to start in 2025.

In addition, later this year IDOT is embarking on a major renovation of the Trail of Tears rest areas on I-57 in Union County, which includes greatly expanding and enhancing truck parking.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow for extra time when traveling through these and all other work zones. Drivers are urged to pay attention to changed conditions and signs, watch for traffic signals, be aware of width restrictions, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

“Across the nation, highway construction and maintenance continue as essential infrastructure activities. Illinois is no different,” said Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. “These projects represent a significant investment in Jefferson, Franklin and Williamson counties that will improve safety, mobility and create economic opportunity for years to come on one of the country’s critical freight and travel corridors. Please, slow down and pay extra attention driving in and around any work zone.”

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,300 miles of highway and 8.4 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation. Year One included approximately \$2.7 billion of improvements statewide on 1,706 miles of highway, 128 bridges and 228 additional safety improvements.

For news on these and other projects in IDOT’s District 9, follow [@IDOTDistrict9](#) on Twitter or sign up to receive email alerts from [IDOT in Motion](#). For traffic and road conditions, please go to www.gettingaroundillinois.com. You also can follow IDOT on [Facebook](#).

#